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# ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet

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29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 • (603) 271-3503 • [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

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## Overview of Youth Recreation Camp Licensing Program

The N.H. Department of Environmental Services licenses youth recreation camps. The licensing program does not evaluate the camp curriculum but does address a broad range of health and safety issues. In 2006, there were approximately 180 licensed camps. A list of licensed camps for the previous year is available by calling (603) 271-2513.

### Statutes

The statutes pertaining to youth recreation camps are RSA 485-A:23, 24, 25 and 25a. These statutes can be found online at [www.nh.gov/government/laws.html](http://www.nh.gov/government/laws.html).

### Rules

The rules pertaining to youth recreation camps are Env-Ws 1120 (dated 2000). These rules can be found on the DES website at [www.des.nh.gov/rules/desadmin\\_list.htm#waterq](http://www.des.nh.gov/rules/desadmin_list.htm#waterq).

### Definition Of A Youth Camp

“Youth camp” or “camp” is defined as an entity that:

- a. Represents itself as a camp.
- b. Is in operation for at least 10 days per license year for recreational purposes or for a combination of recreation and instruction.
- c. Is for-profit or under philanthropic or charitable auspices.
- d. Services 10 or more campers per day.

**Duration and Cost Of The License** The licensing period is annually from May 1 through April 30. The camp licensing fee is \$50 per camp per year.

### The Camp Licensing Program

For a new camp, the licensing process includes a field inspection of the facilities after receipt of an application. The inspector judges the safety and adequacy of the facilities to be used. Once the new camp is in operation, a second inspection is made to evaluate operational compliance. Titles of principal licensing criteria include:

Camp Site Survey  
Buildings, Sleeping Quarters and Equip.  
Camp Water Supply  
Bathing Beaches and Swimming Pool.

Dishwashing  
Fire Safety  
Milk and Cream  
Temporary Overnight Camps

Toilet Facilities  
Sewage Disposal Facilities  
Garbage and Waste Disposal  
Food and Food Preparation

Medical and Nursing Care  
Communicable Diseases Isolation and Rep.  
Reporting of Other Illnesses  
Physical Examination Prior to Admission

### **Youth Camp Contacts At DES:**

Barbara Davis or Bernie Lucey  
Youth Camp Licensing Program  
Department of Environmental Services  
PO Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-2542; (603) 271-2952

### **YOUTH CAMP PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

NH Camp Directors Association  
PO Box 324  
Barnstead, NH 03218  
1-800-549-CAMP  
[www.nhcamps.org](http://www.nhcamps.org)  
[nhcamps@worldpath.net](mailto:nhcamps@worldpath.net)

American Camp Association - New England  
80 Westview Street  
Lexington, MA 02421  
1-781-541-6080  
[www.acane-camps.org](http://www.acane-camps.org)  
[Camp@acane-camps.org](mailto:Camp@acane-camps.org)

### **For Additional Information**

Please contact the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau at (603) 271-2513 or [dwgbinfo@des.state.nh.us](mailto:dwgbinfo@des.state.nh.us) or visit our website at [www.des.nh.gov/dwgb](http://www.des.nh.gov/dwgb). All of the bureau's fact sheets are on-line at [www.des.nh.gov/dwg.htm](http://www.des.nh.gov/dwg.htm).

Note: This fact sheet is accurate as of January 2007. Statutory or regulatory changes, or the availability of additional information after this date may render this information inaccurate or incomplete.